

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, US, GE

SUBJECT: OUR DECISION NOT TO NEGOTIATE FISHERIES AGREEMENT
WITH GDR

1. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE DEPARTMENT HAD EARLIER INDICATED
TO GDR THAT WE HAD FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF ITS DRAFT
FISHERIES' AGREEMENT, AND WERE PREPARED TO SCHEDULE
NEGOTIATIONS. CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES HOWEVER, HAVE NOW
OBLIGED US TO RECONSIDER OUR DECISION, AND WE HAVE
RELUCTANTLY CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD NOW BE INAPPROPRIATE
TO BEGIN TALKS ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. BEGIN FYI: THE LOS CONFERENCE HAS ENDED WITHOUT AGREE-
MENT ON MANY ISSUES, AND THE SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT SESSION
IS SUCH THAT AN LOS TREATY COULD NOT BE CONCLUDED BEFORE
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LATE 1976 AT THE EARLIEST. MEANWHILE, THE PRESSURE IN
CONGRESS HAS INTENSIFIED FOR DECLARING A UNILATERAL 200
MILE JURISDICTION THROUGH LEGISLATION. WE HAVE INDICATED
TO CONGRESS THAT WE ARE REEVALUATING OUR INTERIM POLICY

WITH REGARD TO EXTENSION OF FISHERIES JURISDICTION.

3. DURING THIS PERIOD OF REEVALUATION, IT WOULD APPEAR UNWISE TO ENTER INTO NEW FISHERIES AGREEMENTS, AND WE WILL THEREFORE NOT START NEW NEGOTIATIONS. WE DO HAVE A

FURTHER ROUNDOFTALKS SCHEDULED WITH THE SOVIETS, BUT THIS IS IN CONTINUATION OF A NEGOTIATION WHICH WAS BEGUN SOME TIME AGO. END FYI.

4. WE PLAN TO INFORM GDR CHARGE ELM OF OUR DECISION EARLY NEXT WEEK. THE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE FROM OUR NOTE WILL READ: BEGIN TEXT - THE UNITED NATIONS LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE RECENTLY HAS RECESSED WITHOUT REACHING AGREEMENT AND WITHOUT SETTING A LIMIT FOR THE CONCLUSION OF ITS WORK. IN LIGHT OF THIS SITUATION, THE UNITED STATES NOW IS CONDUCTING A THOROUGH RE-EVALUATION OF ITS INTERIM POLICY.

IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE UNITEDSTATESDOES NOT CONSIDER IT DESIRABLE TO ENTER INTO NEW FISHERIES AGREEMENTS AT THIS TIME. NONETHELESS, THE AMERICAN FISHERIES AUTHORITIES WILL CONTINUE TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE FISHERIES AUTHORITIES OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, WHOSE COOPERATION HAS BEEN NOTED WITH FAVOR IN RECENT YEARS. FURTHER, THE UNITED STATES WILL BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER APPROPRIATE FISHERIES ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ONCE OUR INTERIM POLICY HAS BEEN CLARIFIED AND THE FUTURE OF UNITED STATES JURISDICTION WITH RESPECT OF COASTAL FISHERIES RESOURCES OFF ITS COASTS HAS BEEN RESOLVED. END TEXT

5. WE WOULD INFORMALLY MENTION TO ELM THE CIRCUMSTANCE OF THE PENDING LEGISLATION IN CONGRESS FOR A TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT.

6. A RELATED MATTER HAS TO DO WITH A POSSIBLE INVITATION
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OF OUR FISHERIES EXPERTS TO VISIT THE GDR AND LOOK AT FISHERY INSTALLATIONS THERE. SUCH AN INVITATION HAS ALREADY BEEN ISSUED BY GDR EXPERTS WHO HAVE MET OUR OFFICERS AT INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS. IF THE INVITATION IS REPEATED AT THE UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NORTH ATLANTIC FISHING (ICNAF), OUR EXPERTS WILL BE FREE TO ACCEPT IT. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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